

Remarks

Claims 1 through 20 remain pending in the application.

The Office Action rejects independent claims 1, 10, 16 and 18 as anticipated by Karol, Technique For Internetworking Traffic On Connectionless And Connection-Oriented Networks, U.S. Patent 6,628,617 (Sep. 30, 2003) under the assertion that Karol teaches a method and system for enabling storage of data in a computer network comprising a plurality of computer nodes wherein each computer node comprises a connection oriented link layer unit, and that the method disclosed by Karol includes the steps of (1) defining a loop path in the computer network, where the loop path includes computer nodes and connections between the computer nodes and (2) configuring a connection unit at each node along the looping path supported by the connection oriented link layer unit. The Examiner further asserts that the connection oriented link layer unit is able to send incoming data which is to be stored in the computer network to a next computer node along the looping path and provide the looping path for data and enable storage of data in the computer network.

Claims 1 and 10 are directed to a method for enabling storage of data in a computer network, and claims 16 and 18 are directed to a system for carrying out the method. The method, as recited in claim 1, includes defining a looping path in the computer network, in which the data to be stored in the network would be circulated. In contrast to the Examiner's statement in page 3 item 3 paragraph 2, the claimed invention is not directed to a technique for internetworking traffic on

connectionless (CL) and connection-oriented (CO) networks, as disclosed in the Karol.

Karol does not disclose all the elements of the claimed invention. Karol discloses a technique for internetworking traffic on CL and CO networks, wherein a CL-CO gateway is used for routing data from a CL network to a CO network, for delivering data from a source node to a destination node. While Karol teaches the routing of data from a source node to a destination node such that a transmission in CL mode may be changed to one in CO mode, Karol does not teach the routing of data in such way that the data can be stored in the network. Thus, the claims are not anticipated by Karol.

Further, Karol teaches against (the problem of) the looping of data (datagrams) and proposes the use of source routing to deal with this problem (see for example column 11 paragraph 3 of Karol). The claims set forth a method in which the destination node(s) need not be known at the time when a data packet is inserted into the network (since it would be stored by being moved in the looping path, which includes a plurality of computer/network nodes). On the other hand, the network disclosed in Karol requires a destination node address, since it involves delivering data from a specific source node to a specific destination node. In this light, the claimed system represents a significant departure from Karol, and performs its functions contrary to the teaching of Karol. Accordingly, the claims are neither anticipated by Karol nor suggested Karol.

The method and system of the independent claims allow a data packet in the network to be read and/or deleted by a requesting node N1, even though N1 is not the original

destination node for which the data packet is intended (see for example paragraph [0126] of the present application). However, this is not possible with a conventional network for delivering data from a source node to a destination node (such as that of Karol, for example). Accordingly, the claimed method steps and system features are not found in Karol, nor are they suggested by Karol.

The dependent claims are rejected as anticipated by Karol. These claims should be allowable as they are based on allowable independent claims.

Conclusion

This response has addressed all of the Examiner's grounds for rejection. The rejections based on prior art have been traversed. Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the claims is requested.

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